

FACILITIES AND SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING (in person)
Friday May 9, 2025 @ 8:30am

1. Call to Order – 8:30am

2. Roll Call and Approval of Today's Agenda and Minutes of April 9, 2025

Present: Board members Steve Baxman, Brooke Maury (for Jean Sasso); Administrator Marina McTaggart; Park Supv., Leslie Hofelich, Maintenance and Landscape Asst., Nick Thayer PRAXIS Architects consultants Brian Grant and Stephanie Felch

Approval of agenda and minutes of April 9, 2025. Leslie moved to approve both the agenda and minutes, second by Brooke- all in favor

3. Public Comment

- Tony and Natalie gave an update on the beach snack shack concessions. They will not be operating their own business out of the shack during the week. The food menu has been condensed and the prices have increased slightly. They will be available for shift opening and closing and will also purchase supplies. The transition to selling canned beverages is under consideration so that the soda fountain machine can be removed in order to free up more space. Tentative operating days/hours will be Fri-Sun from 11-4 and Monday holidays.

4. Reports and Information

Leslie and Nick

- The lock at the lower beach gate was cut and a 50-gallon blue recycle bin was stolen. *(later in the day it was discovered that the red trash trailer was also stolen).*
- Rotting deck boards at Lightwave Café were replaced.
- Leslie, Brian and Stephanie will move forward with plans for installing a railing at Lightwave Café.
- There have been several attempts to break into the recently installed barn doors on the back of the playhouse at the Amphitheater.
- Repairs, painting and new lighting at the playhouse have been completed. A security camera has been installed.
- Permission has been given to Redwood Empire Food Bank to install a bench with a plaque at Koret Park in honor of one of their long-time volunteers who passed away unexpectedly. REFB will purchase both the bench and the plaque and coordinate with Leslie on placement.
- There are cracks in the septic riser lids at the Community Center. Leslie will look into replacements
- Nick reported that the MRRPD Newsletter will be published sometime in late June and will include a recap of the first Community Volunteer Day. The second volunteer day will take place sometime in July (after the 4th). There are also plans to include a botany and wildlife column. The broken website link to sign up for the newsletter has been reactivated and there are new signups.
- Nick asked if MRRPD has ever considered expanding its borders in order to have a larger tax base and increase revenue. Past studies indicated that expansion was determined to not be feasible due to expense, lack of county support and LACFO's position that Special District's should be consolidated rather than expanded.

Marina

- A request was received from a Community Gardens manager that the District weed the gardens and pay the water expenses for Parkside Garden. MRRPD allows the use of its property for the gardens at no cost. Maintenance, weeding and paying for water use is the responsibility of the gardeners. Fees for water use in the amount of \$750 have been collected from both garden managers. Fees had not been collected since 2021.
- Jason Cool (one of the skaters) had previously asked to use the old gym as a space for a musical instrument library. MRRPD declined the request due to safety issues, and he has recently found a space at the Monte Rio Theater.
- Signs indicating ‘angle parking only’ have been ordered to prevent parallel parking under the trees at Koret Park and maximize parking availability for events at the Community Center.
- No word has been received on the grant that Blue Point Planning submitted in partnership with the District. Marina will follow up with Mindy Craig.

5. New Business – None

6. Old Business

A. Grant Updates-None

B. Emergency Preparedness- None

C. Update on Trails Projects and SWS/Starrett Hill Acquisition

- Brian and Stephanie continue to attend monthly meetings with Olivia Fiore of Sonoma County Ag + Open Space. There is a possibility of funding through Ag + Open Space to offset the cost of the property transfer from SWS to MRRPD. MRRPD will assist in transporting staff from various agencies that wish to tour the property up the hill. MRRPD board members may also be interested in going.

7. Safety Committee Report

- Steve reported that the Fire Dept was called to put out a fire caused by an unknown party that built a fire at the beach and walked away.

8. Adjourn/Next Meeting – Adjourned at 9:25am; next meeting date June 4, 2025.